the Government's committments to take steps to build a just and human society.

Tenders for Old Russian Unit of Thermal Power Station-I at NLC

3935. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under life Extension Programme of Old Russian Unit of Thermal Power Station. It NLC tenders were called in which 5 parties quoted in 1994.

(b) whether bulk of the job involved Russian spare parts and the Russian parties with good backup in terms of reputed and established collaborators in India, were technically disqualified on flimsy grounds to favour the Multinational with higher price bid;

(c) whether the multinational in question carried out the job by importing most of the spares/equipments from the Russian companies; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken to check favouritism at the cost of public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Suggestions from MPs to Amend the DDA Act

3936. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the D.D.A. had sought suggestions from Members of Parliament hailing from Delhi to help it amend the DDA Act to check/curb unauthorised constructions/misuse of premises/encroachments;

(b) if so, whether suggestions from such M.Ps have been received and the Act amended; and

(c) if not, what action Government propose to take to amend the Act on its own, on the basis of experience gained over the years, keeping in view the alarming pace of encroachments, unauthorised constructions, conversion of residential houses into business complexes etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) This Ministry had sought suggestions from Members of Parliament from Delhi regarding amendment of the Delhi Development Act 190 as to check unauthorised constructions in Delhi. The suggestions from the Delhi MPs have not yet been received. The Government is already seized of matter.

Employment Generation in Railways through JRY

3937. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
DR. MOHAN BABU:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move for employment generation in the Railways under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how will it provide employment to those residing in rural and backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Worsening power Position in Assam

3938. SHRI KARNENDU BATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

worsening power position in Assam; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The power supply position in Assam which during the last four year has been as follows:

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Requirement (MU)	2423.7	2368.0	2437.1	2811.6
Availability (MU)	2040.2	2098.3	2231.3	2509.2
Shortage (MU)	383.5	269.7	205.8	302.4
% Shortage	15.8	11.4	8.4	10.8

(b) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in Assam include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, improving the performance of existing units, facilitating Inter-State/regional exchange of power, reduction in T&D losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures.

Oil Selection Boards

3939. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Oil Selection Boards working under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and their composition;

(b) the tenure of their Chairman and Members and the mode of their selection;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to appoint senior serving/Rtd. Judges of High Courts as Chairman/Member of the Boards so as to make them high power boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Existing policy provides for constitution of Oil Selection Boards as under:

(i)	Retd. High Court Judge	— Chairman
(ii)	A representative of SC/ST/other weaker sections.	— Member.I
(iii)	A prominent public figure	— Member. II

A minimum of two Members shall constitute quorum for the Board. In the absence of the Chairman, the Member at Sl. No. (ii) above shall act as Chairman. The tenure of the Chairman and Members is for a period not exceeding two years.

At present 12 Oil Selection Boards are in existence. Their composition is given in the enclosed statement (*see* below). These Boards are, however, not functional at present.